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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAIL STOP AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Patsy Fonseca

Printed or typed Name of person signing certificate

Patsy Fonseca  
(Signature)

10-31-03

Date of Signature

Re:      Invention:                      LOW INSERTION FORCE TIP/MANDREL  
         Inventors:                      BELL, David W.  
         Serial No.:                      09/764,691  
         Filed:                              January 18, 2001  
         Art Unit:                            2856  
         Examiner:                        Robert R. Raevis  
         Our Docket No.:                  P00520-US-0 (14913.0019)

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Examiner:

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 2, 2003, for the above identified  
patent application.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as set forth below. Additions to existing claims are shown in  
underlined and bold text and deletions from the claims are shown in strike-through and bold text.